

by Kützing for the *L. digitata*, is inadmissible, as muciferous canals exist in many other Algæ placed by that author in his genus *Laminaria*.

The author proposes the following arrangement of the *Laminariæ*:—

LAMINARIA, Lamx.

Root fibrous and branched. Stem cylindrical or subcompressed, solid or fistular. Frond flat, ribless, entire or palmate. *Cryptostomata* wanting.

Section I. *Dendroïdeæ*.

Muciferous canals anastomosing in the cortical layer of the stem, large and scattered in the substance of the frond.

Sp. *L. Cloustoni*, Edm. (Le Jol.); *L. pallida*, Grev.

Section II. *Saccharinæ*.

Muciferous canals wanting in the stem, small and numerous under the epidermis of the frond.

Sp. *L. flexicaulis*, Le Jol.; *L. Bongardiana*, β . *bifurcata*, Post. and Rupr.; *L. bifida*, Gmel.; *L. Ruprechtiana*, Le Jol.; *L. Chamissoi*, Bory; *L. phyllitis*, Stackh.; *L. saccharina*, Linn.; *L. latifolia*, Ag.; *L. Lamourouxii*, Bory; *L. longicurvis*, Lapyll.

Species not seen by the author:—

Of Section I.? *L. Bongardiana*, P. & R.; *L. himantophylla*, P. & R.

Of Section II.? *L. caperata*, Lapyll.; *L. tæniata*, P. & R.; *L. crassifolia*, P. & R.

HALIGENIA, Decaisne.

Section I. *Phyllaria*.

H. dermatodea, *H. triplicata*, *H. brevipes*.

Section II. *Saccorhiza*.

H. bulbosa, Decaisne.

Comptes Rendus, Feb. 26, 1855, p. 470.

Descriptions of two new Species of Humming Birds, from Peru.

By JOHN GOULD, F.R.S.

1. SPATHURA CISSIURA.

General plumage bronzy green; wings purplish brown; four outer tail-feathers purplish steel-black; under surface green, paler on the throat; thighs thickly plumed and of a reddish buff.

Total length, $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches; bill, $\frac{5}{8}$; wing, $1\frac{5}{8}$; tail, $2\frac{3}{8}$.

Hab. Peru.

Remark.—Most nearly allied to *Spathura Peruana*, but differing from that and all the other members of the genus, in having the outer tail-feathers webbed throughout their entire length, and consequently the spathulate tips less conspicuous.

2. CALOTHORAX MICRURUS, Gould.

All the upper surface mealy bronzy green; throat of a glittering amethystine hue; under surface buff, deepest on the sides; tail narrow, rigid and black.

Total length, $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches; bill, $1\frac{9}{16}$; wing, $1\frac{5}{16}$; tail, $\frac{3}{8}$.

Hab. Peru.

Remark.—This is a very diminutive species, and differs from all others in the extreme shortness of the tail, which is exceeded in length by both the upper and under coverts.—*Proc. Zool. Soc.* Nov. 22, 1853.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR FEB. 1855.

Chiswick.—February 1. Clear: overcast. 2. Drifting snow. 3. Hazy. 4. Dense fog: foggy throughout. 5. Overcast: drizzly. 6. Snow-flakes: slight rain. 7. Cloudy: clear and frosty. 8. Snowing: drifting snow: boisterous at night. 9. Overcast: sharp frost. 10. Clear and frosty; severe frost at night. 11. Thermometer within 1 degree of zero: clear. 12. Overcast: clear and cold: partially overcast. 13. Snowing: cloudy: clear: intense frost: thermometer at zero. 14. Clear and cold. 15. Snow-flakes: bright sun: frosty haze. 16. Snow-showers: overcast. 17. Snowing, with cold wind: clear: severe frost. 18. Frosty: hazy: severe frost at night. 19. Uniform haze: clear and frosty. 20. Clear and frosty. 21. Overcast. 22. Hazy. 23. Overcast: snowing. 24. Fine. 25. Overcast. 26. Rain. 27. Foggy: rain. 28. Drizzly: large halo round the moon in the evening.

Mean temperature of the month	28°·01
Mean temperature of Feb. 1854	37·67
Mean temperature of Feb. for the last twenty-nine years ...	39·07
Average amount of rain in Feb.	1·54 inch.

Boston.—Feb. 1. Cloudy. 2. Fine. 3. Cloudy: rain and hail P.M. 4. Foggy: rain P.M. 5. Foggy: rain A.M. 6, 7. Cloudy: snow P.M. 8. Cloudy: stormy P.M. 9—11. Cloudy. 12—14. Fine. 15. Fine: snow A.M. 16. Fine: thermometer early A.M. 6°·5. 17—22. Fine. 23. Cloudy. 24. Fine: snow A.M. 25. Cloudy. 26. Cloudy: rain P.M. 27. Cloudy: snow A.M. 28. Cloudy.

Sandwick Manse, Orkney.—Feb. 1. Damp A.M.: sleet-showers P.M. 2. Thaw, bright A.M.: clear, frost P.M. 3. Thaw, showers A.M.: damp P.M. 4. Thaw, damp A.M.: showers P.M. 5. Showers A.M. and P.M. 6. Sleet-showers A.M.: clear P.M. 7. Clear, frost A.M.: snow-showers P.M. 8. Bright, frost A.M.: cloudy, frost P.M. 9. Clear, frost A.M.: cloudy, frost P.M. 10. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 11. Snow-showers A.M. and P.M. 12. Snow-showers A.M.: snowing, aurora P.M. 13. Snow-drift A.M.: clear P.M. 14. Snow, bright A.M.: clear, aurora P.M. 15. Snow, bright A.M.: cloudy P.M. 16. Snow, bright A.M.: clear P.M. 17. Snow, thaw A.M.: cloudy P.M. 18. Snow, clear A.M.: clear P.M. 19. Snow, clear A.M.: cloudy P.M. 20, 21. Snow, clear A.M.: clear, aurora P.M. 22. Snow, clear A.M.: lunar halo P.M. 23. Snow, cloudy A.M.: snow drift P.M. 24. Snow drift A.M. and P.M. 25. Snow, cloudy A.M.: snow, clear P.M. 26. Snow-showers A.M.: snow, clear P.M. 27. Snow, bright A.M.: snow clouds P.M. 28. Thaw A.M.: rain P.M.

Mean temperature of Feb. for twenty-eight previous years .	38°·24
Mean temperature of this month	31·64
Mean temperature of Feb. 1854	39·22
Average quantity of rain in Feb. for fourteen previous years	3·39 inches.

The mean temperature of this month is lower than that of any month for the last twenty-eight years—the whole period of observation—except February 1838, when it was 31°·31, and when there was snow during all the month and for three weeks previously. This month it lay from the 11th till the last day, and the drift on the 23rd and 24th formed high wreaths in many places, rendering the roads impassable to vehicles.